

Governors State University OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship

@govst.edu

University Newsletters

9-1998

@govst.edu, 1998-09

Office of Public Affairs

Follow this and additional works at: <http://opus.govst.edu/atgovstedu>

Recommended Citation

Governors State University Office of Public Affairs, @govst.edu (1998, September). <http://opus.govst.edu/atgovstedu/18>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the University Newsletters at OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. It has been accepted for inclusion in @govst.edu by an authorized administrator of OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. For more information, please contact opus@govst.edu.



New Dean

3



Computer Camp

5



CPA Excitement

11

New Academic Year Brings Many Changes at GSU



Spring is in the air!

Although the calendar indicates that this is the time when the Fall Trimester is beginning, students, faculty, staff and visitors to the Governors State University campus these next few weeks will see enough changes and new things to remind them of the traditional season of rebirth and renewal.

The most obvious change is the new carpet on the floor and the new lighting overhead, making the campus look better, literally, from head to toe. Workers throughout the campus' main building are laying new blue/

gray carpet, replacing the orange and brown floor coverings that have been a part of the university since its original construction over 25 years ago. The new carpet is being put down in 18" x 18" squares, rather than in large rolls, to provide for greater ease of maintenance and replacement of damaged or worn carpet.

The improved lighting and lowered ceilings that are being installed around campus are the result of a recently announced contract with Energy Masters International, Inc. (EMI), an energy services company and a subsidiary of Northern States

Power Company, to improve the energy efficiency of the facilities at GSU.

EMI was awarded roughly a \$2 million contract to improve the energy efficiency of four buildings on the GSU campus. The company will improve the heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) systems and install the new lighting. Energy savings at the university are projected to exceed \$2,850,000 over a ten-year period.

This is the first contract to be signed under the Public University Energy Conservation Act (Public Act 90-486) passed last

GSU Director of Physical Plant Operations (PPO) Michael Hassett (center) reviews blueprints of GSU plans and goes over lighting replacement and carpeting work with some of the contractors responsible for the improvements being made on the GSU campus.



Many Changes at GSU

year. This legislation allows Illinois universities to finance facilities improvements over a ten-year period with project costs guaranteed to be covered from energy and operations savings.

GSU President Paula Wolff said, "The project at GSU will result in an impressive combination of lower energy costs, increased student and faculty comfort and productivity, while benefiting the environment through the reduction of energy use and water conservation. This is a major endeavor, and we anticipate the long term rewards to be well worth the commitment."

But the physical changes to the campus will not stop with new carpet and more energy efficient lights and climate control. To meet the projected continued growth of what is already the fastest growing public university in the state of Illinois over the past five years, GSU recently applied for and received a \$1.5 million grant from the state to plan for the construction of a new teaching and learning complex and the renovation of existing class and office space.

GSU Vice President of Administration and Planning James Alexander announced the university's being awarded the planning grant, stating, "This is good news for GSU. The university proposes to extend its current facility in the most ambitious expansion project in its history. The project will plan for the creation of a teaching/learning complex by the year 2000 to carry Governors State University into the 21st century."

Alexander said there are three general

components to the project. The planning phase will permit the university community to participate in developing more specific designs for all three phases. First, to meet the challenge of enhancing its teaching environment without building a new facility, the university is proposing repair and renovation of the "E" and "F" Wing classrooms, laboratories and limited faculty office spaces.

The second component of the project is to extend the existing facility by 40,000 square feet to create a two-floor faculty office center. This new center will enhance faculty life and free up space in the existing facility to create more classrooms.

The third component is to plan a family development center/charter school encompassing an 18,000 square foot building west of the main campus building. This center will house a state-of-the-art child and family center serving families with children from birth to eight years old, including a proposed charter school from kindergarten to third grade. Programs in the university such as early childhood education, family counseling, social work, speech pathology and nursing will provide services and afford students real world situations to hone their skills.

According to Alexander, the planning process will take approximately one year. Once completed, the proposal goes back to the legislature for approval of actual construction funds, which are estimated at approximately \$15 million.

Exciting new developments go far beyond the physical appearance of the campus, however. After a more than year-long search,

Dr. Diane L. Alexander has been appointed as the new dean of the College of Education at GSU (See related story on page 3). And Alexander is only one of many new faces who will be meeting students in the classrooms this trimester. New faculty has been hired in the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Health Professions (See a complete list of new hires over the past three months in "Happenings" on page 9).

Several new degree programs are just moving into their first or second full years of operation at GSU as well, providing students with access to degrees in some of the hottest job fields today. Recently added degree programs, such as the Master's in Social Work, the Bachelor's in Integrative Studies, the Master's in Early Childhood Education, the Master's in Occupational Therapy and the Master's in Physical Therapy give GSU students and grads a competitive edge with some of the most sought after degrees in the employment market.

All of these new developments are significant enhancements in the spirit of what GSU President Paula Wolff describes as the "New American University." According to Wolff, Governors State is "...a university different than that of 25 years ago in the profile of the average student and the manner in which they obtain their education. 80 percent of the students are working and raising families at the same time they are enrolled in college courses. These are highly motivated people who use life experience to enhance their education and their education to enhance their lives."

Icons



Teaching



Service



Technology



Diversity

@govst.edu will always report accomplishments that help GSU meet its mission statement. Look for these icons which will indicate stories that directly relate to GSU's four goals

Governors State University

@govst.edu

September 1998

Public Affairs Department

Connie Zonka, Director
Detmer Wells
Virginia Eysenbach
Denise Graham Zahn
John Harris
Lisa Bly, Intern
Teresa Pallante, Intern

.edu Photographers

Dick Burd
Larry Lewis



Governors
State
University

Diane Alexander New Dean of College of Education

After a long search, Governors State University has appointed Dr. Diane L. Alexander to the position of dean of the College of Education. Dr. Larry Freeman has held the position of interim dean for more than a year.

Alexander received a bachelor of science degree in English education from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in 1972, a master of education degree in education administration from South Dakota State University in Brookings in 1982 and a doctorate in education administration from the University of South Dakota in Vermillion in 1991.

After receiving her doctorate, Alexander served as interim dean of the College of Education and Human Resources Development at Black Hills State University in Spearfish, S.D., from 1991-1993. In 1994, Alexander was appointed dean of the

Division of Education at Wayne State College in Wayne, Neb., where she remained until coming to GSU July 6.



Dr. Diane Alexander

At Wayne State College, Alexander said she was actively engaged in massive program revision in elementary education, secondary education and four graduate program areas that included the design of a new curriculum and instruction major. Working with faculty, she developed four cohort groups of graduate students within an 80 mile radius of the main campus, resulting in the largest master's level class in the history of the college in December 1997.

In assuming her new post at GSU, Alexander said, "I'm excited about working with the faculty and administration in a senior university. Although I have not met many students yet, it appears the diversity of the student body complements our classrooms and enhances learning. I'm anxious to become acquainted with the GSU community, our area schools and community colleges."

Two GSU Students Set to Spend Semester Studying in China

A program initiated to provide low-income or minority students with an academic experience abroad has resulted in two Governors State University students preparing for a four month program in Beijing, China, beginning in the fall of 1999.

Coordinated by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), which received the original grant, students enrolled in member universities of the Illinois Consortium on International Education (ICIE) are eligible to participate.

The two GSU students participating are Chrystal Sanks of Ford Heights and Regenia Nobles of Country Club Hills. Sanks and Nobles recently completed a two-week mandatory institute at UIUC with students from around the country who are also participating in the program. The institute focused on intensive Mandarin language classes, lectures on Chinese culture and society and a variety of cultural activities. A second institute will be held next spring.

During the upcoming school year, the two will enroll in academic courses to learn more about the Chinese language and culture. They will also engage with Chinese students enrolled at GSU to practice their newly acquired language skills. Nobles

said she will be corresponding via e-mail with the wife of a GSU student in China



during the coming year as well.

After the year of preparation, the two GSU students will spend four months at the Tsinghua University in Beijing, one of China's most prestigious universities. Current enrollment in the university is more than 28,000. Many well-known Chinese statesmen, scholars, scientists and engineers are graduates of Tsinghua University.

At the university the students will be taught by Chinese professors in English in a program designed specifically for the participants. Subjects will include Chinese history, contemporary Chinese institutions, recent developments in the economy/industry and international trade, the arts, the Man-

darin language and Chinese language and culture. The 35 participating students from across the United States will eat their meals and reside in the international students dorm. One student's fees and expenses are paid by the consortium to which GSU contributes. A matching amount for a second student is paid by the National Security Education Program (NSEP), a federal government program whose mission is to lead in developing national capacity to educate U.S. citizens to understand foreign cultures, strengthen U.S. economic competitiveness and enhance international cooperation and security.

Nobles is an undergraduate in the College of Business and Public Administration. She is majoring in accounting with a minor in Chinese culture. Chrystal Sanks, who graduated from Prairie State College in spring, is enrolled at GSU starting this fall.

The Office of International Services at GSU assisted in finding two qualifying students. Dean William Nowlin of the College of Business and Public Administration said this experience is an example of universities cooperating to provide students with experiences they might not otherwise be afforded and which will contribute to international understanding.



GSU Receives Distance Learning Award



At its annual meeting in Boston the first week of July the National University Telecommunication Network (NUTN) awarded Governors State University its 1998 prize for Outstanding Distance Education for its ABELINC Project, which stands for Adult Bachelor's Education: Learners and Institutions Networking and Collaborating.

Dr. Glenn Shive, director of the Board of Governors (BOG) program at GSU and of the ABELINC Project, said, "It is unusual that a program so early in its implementation should receive this honor. It helps to bring national recognition to GSU as developing the practical underpinnings and national reach of the 'New American University.'"

Several staff and faculty members at GSU have been active in NUTN through the years, Shive said, and are known for their leadership in distance education. They include Dr. Lee Zaborowski, former dean of the Center for Extended Learning and Communications Services (CELCS); Dr.

Mel Muchnik, professor of communications; Sally Petrilli, former learning technologies manager in CELCS, and Peg Donohue, director of the South Metropolitan Regional Higher Education Consortium in CELCS.

Shive said he believes GSU received the award "in the context of a general sense at NUTN that GSU has done advanced work for years to enable adult learners to gain access to higher education through technology." Enormous credit goes to Polly Bernd, the coordinator of the ABELINC Project, and to the advisors of the BOG B.A. program. Enrollments have grown nearly 30 percent in the past year, partly as a result of the ABELINC Project, Shive said.

The goal of the ABELINC Project, which is partially funded by a grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE) of the United States Department of Education, is to offer adult learners across the country greater access to GSU's flexible baccalaureate degree completion program through their local community

colleges.

Based anywhere in the United States, students can earn credits toward the BOG/B.A. by taking classroom courses at regionally accredited colleges or universities in their community, by enrolling in media-based courses from GSU or any other accredited provider of distance education and by developing a portfolio based on life/work experience.

"Through the ABELINC Project, adult students can continue the education they started without leaving home utilizing distance education courses," Shive said. "Through distance education they enter a 'virtual university,' using technology to receive their education, yet maintaining access to the support services of their community college."

Shive said it is gratifying to be recognized as a leader in distance education initiatives, and GSU will continue its efforts to remain on the cutting edge of distance education for the "New American" student.

Interactive Classroom Used for Special Teleconference by Federal Signal



Recently, Federal Signal Safety Products Group of University Park representatives conducted a videoconference with a sister company in Barcelona, Spain, using Governors State University's interactive classroom.

Peg Donohue, director of the South Metropolitan Regional Higher Education Consortium who arranged the videoconference, said, "Federal Signal had an immediate need for a videoconference and GSU, as one of the consortium's videoconferencing sites, was able to fill that need."

Federal Signal Safety Products Group of University Park manufactures safety products, one of which is a light bar for police and emergency vehicles. A sister company, VAMA, in Barcelona, produces light bars also. Bill Oliver, special projects manager for Federal Signal, said that the two plants, located in different parts of the world, were having some problems blending technologies and needed to be able to see each other's processes in order to mesh them.

Myron Pavlacka, a principle mechanical engineer for Federal Signal, said their current vehicle for visual communications is

inadequate. Pavlacka has been using a Compaq computer with a low-end video camera transmitting voice and picture over standard domestic telephone lines. But, he said, the quality is poor, visual area is limited, the transmission is choppy and delayed about three seconds, creating problems with voice and video synchronization.

Using the interactive classroom with its six ceiling hung microphones, two camera set-up and ISDN lines with two channels, a trial was undertaken to see if their communication process could be improved, especially over international phone lines. It was.

During the trial, Pavlacka and Oliver were able to transmit a still picture, a blueprint and rendered drawing to VAMA. The quality of the transmission was good, and there was no time delay or issue with voice and visual being out of sync, Pavlacka said. The next step will likely be to bring more managerial and manufacturing people in for a second conference. "We did the exploratory," he said. "Now it's a matter of getting all the other people involved."

In operation for seven years, the SMRHEC consists of 11 regional colleges and universities. It is one of 10 regional

consortia set up across the state by the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Four years ago, Donohue said, the Illinois legislature approved funding to construct a statewide telecommunications network for the purpose of supporting distance education, particularly for rural areas. With this funding the SMRHEC set up 31 videoconference sites located throughout the region in colleges, universities, high schools and hospitals.

"One of our focuses this year will be to inform business, industry, chambers of commerce and other organizations about this valuable resource," said Donahue.

The consortium's goals are consistent with GSU's mission of providing quality, affordable, accessible education to all students utilizing technology, while providing service to the region, said Vince Donahue of GSU, who provided on-site support for the videoconference.

"The primary purpose of the network is to provide access to higher education degrees, courses and programs to the citizens of our region and to support the needs of the business and not-for-profit community as well," Donohue stated.

College of Health Professions Programs Accredited

Two high profile programs in Governors State University's College of Health Professions recently received accreditations from important accreditation granting organizations in their respective fields. The masters of occupational therapy (M.O.T.) program has received full accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE), while the master of health science addictions studies program was approved for two-year accreditation by the Illinois Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Professional Certification Association Inc. (IAODAPCA).

For students in the M.O.T. program, the significance is that upon completion of course work and fieldwork requirements, graduates will be allowed to sit for the National Certification for Occupational Therapist Examination. After passing the national examination, they will be able to provide occupational therapy service in the GSU community, the nation and abroad.

"This is a benchmark for the program, which is slightly less than two years old," said Elizabeth Cada, director of the M.O.T.

program at GSU. "New students will continue to be attracted to the M.O.T. program based upon the accreditation, growing interest in the occupational therapy profession, our location in the south suburban region and the positive feedback that our students receive within the GSU community and at large."

The addictions studies program prepares individuals for counseling and managerial careers in the prevention and treatment of substance abuse and a wide variety of human services. As with occupational therapy, accreditation of the program will allow for graduates to become certified quickly and easily. The curriculum is based on the premise that addictions are multifactorial, requiring multi-solution approaches. Core clinical courses are carefully combined with specific management courses to integrate these two perspectives. As substance abuse specialists, graduates are expected to demonstrate and implement theoretical skills that will result in positive client outcomes.

Dr. Arthur Durant, academic program

director in the addictions studies program at Governors State University noted, "This accreditation will allow the graduates of the program to immediately access the initial stage of the process for counselor certification in the state of Illinois."

Dr. Cecilia Rokusek, dean of the College of Health Professions, said the accreditations are extremely important. "Students now can graduate with their master's degree and, in addition, be prepared to start their state certification. Now all of the eight academic programs in CHP are accredited or in candidacy status due for accreditation."

"We are extremely proud of the efforts of our faculty and staff who have worked so diligently to achieve these accreditations. Our student body is fortunate to have access to these high caliber programs and outstanding faculty."

For information on the master of health science, addictions studies program, call (708) 534-4910.

For more information on the master of occupational therapy program, call (708) 534-7295.

AT&T Summer Computer Camp Enjoys 2nd Successful Year

The AT&T Computer Scholars Camp was held once again at Governors State University. This camp is an alternative for parents who want to introduce their children to the latest technologies.

The camp took place from July 27 through August 7. Designed to enhance students' reasoning, writing and organizational skills, the camp is for students who just completed 8th grade.

Participating students in this year's AT&T Computer Scholars Camp engaged in a variety of hands-on activities. During the morning, they worked in groups to research issues, using the Internet and other university resources to expand their technological literacy. The focus was on turning concepts learned in traditional classroom settings into tangible experiences, which they wrote about using word processing software in the computer lab. Recreation time, including use of the university pool, took place during the afternoons.

Participation was free for the students, thanks to AT&T's Community Involvement Grant Fund.



An outstanding student in the AT&T Computer Camp (seated) is joined by (from left to right) camp coordinator Damen Krug, AT&T Education Program Director Dennis Fulton, GSU Dean of the College of Education Diane Alexander, and GSU President Paula Wolff.

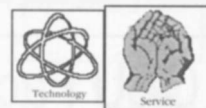
The new dean of GSU's College of Education Dr. Diane Alexander participated

in the camp, along with head teachers Bruce Ketcher and Colleen Rufo; Dorothy Foster, a representative of AT&T, and Dr. Damen Krug, a GSU College of Education professor who is the camp coordinator.

"This camp gives area children a chance to be a part of the technology revolution," claimed Krug. "Children who learn to be comfortable working with technology today are going to be the leaders of tomorrow. We're proud to be a part of teaching those leaders."

GSU's President Paula Wolff and AT&T Education Program Director Dennis Fulton addressed the students during their graduation ceremony and also had a chance to review several of the students' final projects.

For more information on the AT&T Summer Computer Camps, contact Sherry Kohl at (708) 534-5000, Ext. 5146.



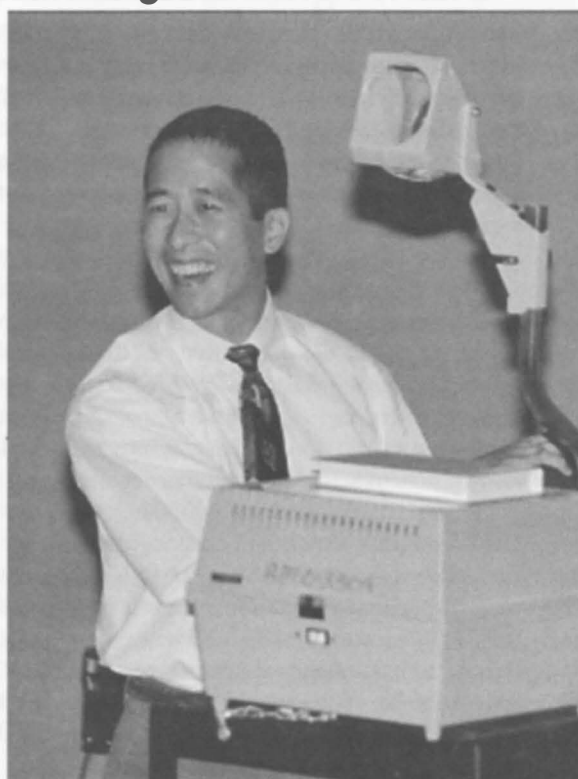
College of Education Program Mentors New Teachers



Karen Peterson, a Governors State University professor in the College of Education, who is also chairing the Illinois Induction Advisory Panel of the Illinois State Board of Education, said many teachers are being lost from the field of education because of a failure to provide support for beginning teachers. Six years ago a collaborative initiative addressing that issue was developed through GSU's College of Education. "Beginning Teacher Program -- Bridging the Gap," focuses on developing mentor relationships between seasoned teachers and first year teachers to ensure a smooth transition into the real world of teaching.

The collaboration includes School District 130, Blue Island, Alsip, Crestwood and Robbins; District 231, Evergreen Park; District 143 1/2, Posen and Robbins; District 152, Harvey; District 167, Glenwood; District 168, Sauk Village and GSU.

From August 12 through 14, training sessions were held at GSU to train the mentors as well as the beginning teachers. Peterson said that in order for teachers to become mentors, they must have



An instructor gives a presentation as part of the Teacher Mentoring program at GSU

an understanding of the role of the mentor and the adult learning process. The begin-

ning teacher must understand that because the development of excellence in teaching is a lifelong process, patience is among the qualities necessary for the novice.

These issues and others were addressed during the training session. Steve Isoya, the Illinois Teacher of the Year, gave the keynote address on the final day of the session. Mentors and beginning teachers will watch instructional video clips and participate in break-out sessions. The first day was reserved for mentor training, the second for beginning teacher training and the third brought them together.

Peterson said an indicator of the success of the program is that "we are moving beginning teachers through the teacher socialization process quicker. Because of having a structured support system, the novices are resolving the 'survival' issues of being first-year teachers sooner and are better able to focus on curriculum and children's needs."

For more information, contact Karen Peterson at (708) 534-4377.

GSU Faculty and Students to Participate in Regional Environmental Study



From August 18 to 21, Bob Rung of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) conducted a survey of the fish population at eight sites along Thorn Creek in the Thorn Creek Macrosite. He was joined by Cook and Will County Forest Preserve Districts' staff scientists, EcoWatch and RiverWatch volunteers, seven visiting European scientists stationed at the Shedd Aquarium, members of the Thorn Creek Macrosite and students and faculty of Governors State University.

Dr. Karen D'Arcy, GSU professor of analytical chemistry, said this was the start of a baseline assessment of the area for water quality and biological diversity. The macrosite, which covers an area from just south of the GSU campus, north to the Little Calumet River, west to the Illinois Central (Metra) tracks and east to Glenwood, Lansing and the Indiana/Illinois border, was formally designated as a macrosite by the state of Illinois last De-

cember. The macrosite designation is part of an IDNR-sponsored program called the Ecosystems Program of Conservation 2000 (C2000), that funds conservation initiatives.

Dr. D'Arcy said that the Thorn Creek Macrosite is one of approximately 25 across the state of Illinois, most are downstate and larger by far than this one. Information gained from the survey will be accumulated and used to garner funding for a variety of environmental initiatives, like purchasing conservation easements for habitat protection, establishing education programs, seeking members for the partnership and establishing a Website that would be linked to the SMRLC's LincolnNet. "We are still in the process of setting goals and objectives for the partnership," D'Arcy said.

D'Arcy said that Rung and GSU students taking an aquatic systems course used a tool called an electric seine to bring the fish to the surface, so they can be caught in nets. The tool sends an electric current into the

water and fish respond, D'Arcy said, by inflating their air bladders and floating to the top. Once caught, the fish were counted and species were identified.

D'Arcy said that while they are not anticipating any surprises, last spring Jeff Pells, a local citizen, took Bob Rung to a site in Plum Creek and identified a steel head trout migrating in from Lake Michigan to reproduce. "It was amazing," she said. "The fish had to travel upstream through the Calumet Harbor, the Little Calumet and a lot of man-made barriers and contamination to get there. This is something that has not been reported before, and it's pretty exciting," D'Arcy said. Plum Creek is not currently a part of the macrosite, but may be in the future.

For more information on the Thorn Creek Macrosite or the Local Partnership Council, contact Dr. Karen D'Arcy at (708) 534-4526.

Labriola a Delegate to World Summit on Kids' TV



Tony Labriola, Governors State University's coordinator of instructional development in the Center for Extended Learning and Communications Services (CELCS), was asked to be a delegate to the Second World Summit on Television for Children in London this past March.

The Summit was a successful international event with participation from more than 1,300 delegates representing nearly 80 countries. Several global initiatives and policies were negotiated, including a revised Charter for Children's Television.

During the event, Labriola discussed programming, policy and issues with other delegates. Questions addressed included "Are we offering children a chocolate box picture of the world? How do we give children a voice in their own TV? Is America flooding the market with junk TV? Where is the voice of local culture? Where do you draw the line as to what is OK to broadcast or for children to watch? Are we giving children what they want or what we think they want? Are we losing the children? Are there too many cartoons? Who will pay? What about computers and new media?"

In addition, as part of his sabbatical work, Labriola was able to work with the

summit organizers before the event to coordinate daily screenings of exemplary, relevant and controversial children's programs for the assembled delegates. Nearly 50 children's programs from around the world were reviewed before selecting 13 that represent the very best in creativity, relevance and production.

The producers of the selected films were available for discussion after their work was shown. Labriola welcomed delegates, introduced the screenings and moderated the discussions with producers and the audience. He said the screenings were extremely popular and well-attended.

"GSU was well-represented," Labriola said. "I was the only American on the core organization group of the Summit and one of only four U.S. producers of a major session. The others were David Kleeman, director of the American Center for Children's Television; Dr. Carla Seal-Wanner of @ccess4@ll and Betty Cohen, president of the Cartoon Network. This was good company, indeed."

Labriola noted, "GSU's mission is linked to making the university more globally sensitive as well as technologically adept. This opportunity was perfect for me. These children are the university students

of tomorrow, and they will be here before we know it."

He continued, "I have always loved children and care about what they see. Television is a huge presence in children's lives. It is a parent, teacher, friend and confidante. It shapes the way they think about the world, and I would like to help in that creation. Being part of the organizing team was a fantastic opportunity to be behind the scenes in a global policy-level event."

On the down side, Labriola said "It is disheartening that the the United States, as the world's largest producer is so conservative and limited in the content we choose. The United States is the only major producer of children's television that is not a signatory of the global Children's Charter, and we are one of the few that has no national financial support for children as a group or for children's television.

Labriola said he looks forward to continued involvement with children's TV. "Organizing the screenings gave me an opportunity to view programs from around the world. It is amazing and inspirational to see how many wonderful things are being done for children by dedicated producers everywhere."

GSU Alumni Carry on Public Service Mission



Governors State University has a tradition of producing graduates who go on to become leaders in their communities. In fact, encouraging community service is part of GSU's mission.

GSU President Paula Wolff remarked, "Our successful graduates live the mission of the university through their devotion to and achievement in public service. We are rightfully proud of them all."

At GSU students are encouraged to participate in outreach programs like Project HOPE and Learning-in-Context, and the measure of success of these programs is indicated not only within the communities served but through the many GSU alumni who go on to serve their communities, the region and state through volunteerism and elected or appointed governmental offices.

The long list of distinguished alumni who hold government office includes Illinois State Comptroller Loleta Didrickson, Cook County Board Commissioner Jerry Butler and board member Herbert Schumann, Director of the Illinois Department of Public

Aid Joan Walters, Flossmoor Village Manager Peggy Glassford, Park Forest Village Manager Janet Muchnik, Mayor of Riverdale Joseph Szabo, Mayor of Country Club Hills Dwight Welch, Debra J. Halas of the Lake County Board, City Clerk of Oak Forest Scott Burkhardt, Bloom Township Trustee Theresa "Terry" Brink, Homer Township Trustee Andrew "Bud" Fazio, Village of Matteson Trustees Emmanuel A. Imoukhuede and Denise Graham Zahn, Village of Homewood Trustee Judith Mostovoy and Pleasant Dale Park Board Member Frederick Simari.

Janet Muchnik participated in the fellowship program in The Institute for Public Policy and Administration the year that GSU moved from competency-based education to earning grades. "It was a highly competitive time," she said. "I worked harder in school that year than ever before or after."

While Joseph Szabo was attending classes at GSU, he worked as a train conductor and had ambitions to rise in the union ranks. He was also a village board member

in Riverdale with a goal of becoming the village mayor. "GSU certainly helped me achieve my goals," he said. "It gave me, as someone working full time, the opportunity to pursue my education."

Flossmoor's Village Administrator Peggy Glassford was a housewife going back into the work force when she enrolled at GSU. "I would not be where I am today were it not for GSU," she said. "I am very grateful to the university. The training I received at GSU helped me do what I am doing now. I was accepted into a fellowship program designed to train women and minorities to be public service professionals in local government. The program achieved exactly what it intended; several other participants and I hold positions of leadership in the region."

Country Club Hills Mayor Dwight Welch said, "My educational experience at GSU has formed the core of my public persona. It has guided me well over my past 20-some years in public life. Without it, I would have been lost."

Happenings

Shive Awarded Fulbright Grant

Dr. Glenn Shive, director of the Board of Governors (BOG) Bachelor Degree program at GSU, has been awarded a Fulbright grant to serve as program director for research and program development of the Hong Kong - America Center based at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). The center promotes educational and cultural interchange between Hong Kong and the United States and serves as a resource for American studies at universities in east Asia.

Shive will also be affiliated with the Education Administration and Policy Institute in the College of Education at CUHK. He will conduct a study of distance learning in Asia and plans to convene a conference and publish a book based on the year's research.

Shive is one of approximately 2,000 United States grantees who will travel abroad for the 1998/99 academic year through the Fulbright program.

Muchnik Elected NUTN Chair

In Boston, at the 1998 annual conference of the National University Telecommunications Network (NUTN), Dr. Mel Muchnik, Governors State University professor of media communications in the College of Arts and Sciences, was elected to a two-year term as chairperson of the 22-member advisory board.

NUTN is a premier association in higher education's application of new and emerging communications technologies in distance learning and teleconferencing. Its membership includes a cross-section of United States' higher education communities and serves public, private, two- and four-year institutions.

Dr. Muchnik said, "This is wonderful recognition for GSU and its many efforts to establish itself as a leader providing access and quality to higher education through the use of various technologies. NUTN has also honored GSU with a number of national awards through the years."

continued on next page

Disadvantaged Children Participate in Summer Prep Program at GSU



Governors State University, the Illinois Council for College Attendance (ICCA) and the Chicago Public Schools sponsored a six-week summer academic enrichment program at GSU for students entering the sixth grade this fall.

The free program, which began June 23, targeted students attending Gompers, West Pullman and Carver Middle Schools in Chicago and focused on language arts, science, computer science, mathematics and social studies.

The program, called University Academy Chicago Public Schools Summer Prep Program, was designed to promote student development of problem identification, problem solving and experimentation. It also developed pro-social behavior and social responsibility through teamwork and collaboration and broadened students' views of educational and career opportunities.

The program was made possible through a grant from the Chicago Public Schools.

The ICCA is a not-for-profit organization committed to equal opportunity and has traditionally assisted under-represented students with access to higher education and career opportunities. Each year, ICCA provides scholarships and academic competitions for outstanding minority high school students. The organization also hosts college and career fairs for students in grades six through twelve, provides mentoring for several students considering or attending college, and holds an annual professional development conference on diversity issues facing educators and administrators.

Glen Abbott, GSU's assistant to the president/affirmative action officer and president of the ICCA, said that the program is consistent with GSU's mission to serve ethnic minorities and to promote efforts which enhance educational opportunities.

For more information on future camps or other ICCA programs, call Glen Abbott at (708) 534-4132.

ACESSS Program Helps Students Succeed



Governors State University announced the opening of its new Access to a College Education Student Support Services (ACESSS) program, on June 3.

Established under the Division of Student Affairs and Services and funded under a four-year, annually renewable grant from the United States Department of Education, ACESSS is charged with providing high quality services to help retain and graduate GSU students who face special challenges.

To be eligible for special ACESSS services, students must meet at least one of the following criteria: be the first member in their families to attend college, be considered low-income according to U.S. guidelines, have documented learning disabilities or have academic needs which vary from poor study habits and poor grades to a need for academic advising and tutoring not otherwise available.

Director Viola Gray has been involved in similar programs since 1980, previously initiating them at Mankato State University in Minnesota and at the University of Wis-

consin. She has served as state and regional president of the Mid-America Association of Education Opportunity Programs Personnel.

"What separates our program from regular academic counseling is that we provide assistance in registration, financial aid, tutoring, student activities and so on. I like to think of it as one-stop shopping," Gray said. "Some students do not know where to go to take advantage of college services or think that they have to do it on their own. ACESSS lets them know that help is available and that it is okay to ask for it."

ACESSS counselors will provide academic advising on course selection, study skills and career and graduate school options as well as personal counseling as it affects the academic life of students. Plans also include cultural activities and visits to graduate schools and college fairs.

And, because some students have not been exposed to broader cultural experiences, those opportunities are provided as well. "That's part of rounding them out as college students," said Gray.

One Church/One Addict Program Moves Ahead with New Director

Bishop Cheers Jr. is the new Illinois state coordinator for the One Church/One Addict (OCO) program located at Governors State University.

OCO was founded by Father George Clements in 1993. It is a national spiritually-based treatment program for recovery from substance abuse concerned directly with the fate and recovery of the estimated 3.6 million chronic drug users in the United States.

Chears said he became aware of the program through longtime friend Chuck Rankin, who is the national director of the One Church/One Addict program. Knowing Cheers' background in social services Rankin asked Cheers if he would consider working for the program if a position became available. When the position opened up for Illinois state coordinator, Rankin again approached Cheers, and Cheers was definitely interested.

Before coming to GSU, Cheers was employed by the Salvation Army Emer-

gency Lodge in Chicago, providing assistance for battered and abused women, in particular, he said. He has also held positions at Burns Security in Chicago, Center for Street People in Chicago, the Salvation Army Community Correctional Center in Chicago, Lutherbrook Children's Center in Addison and the State of Illinois Department of Revenues in Chicago.

He has an A.A. in psychology from Olive-Harvey Junior College, a B.A. in public administration, a business administration certificate in non-profit organization from Roosevelt University and a social service law certificate from John Marshall Law School.

Chears sees his biggest challenge in the new position as broadening the scope of the OCOA program. "We need more interaction with churches and communities. People need to know how to recognize the symptoms of substance abuse. They need to know what resources are available to them."

For more information on OCOA, call Cheers at (708) 534-2187.



Happenings

continued from previous page

New Employees

The GSU community welcomes the several new faces who have joined us during the past few months:

Hilary Gereg
Small Business Development Center
David Drechsel
Human Resources
Margaret Nugent
Student Affairs and Services
James Ahern
Physical Plant Operations
Mary P. Adler
College of Health Professions
Joan G. Porche
College of Health Professions
Diane Alexander
College of Education
Sharon Evans
Admissions
Denise Joyce
College of Arts & Sciences
Elaine Goodrick
CELCS
Lynn Miller
College of Education
Deborah Wilson
Department of Public Safety
Blondell Jones
College of Arts & Sciences
Wayne Zarembo
Physical Plant Operations
Cheryl Krieger
Provost's Office
Rose Johnson Bigler
College of Arts & Sciences

Hilary Gereg Chosen to Head SBDC

The Small Business Development Center at Governors State University has a new director, following the departure last November of Chris Cochrane, who accepted an appointment as project manager of the South Suburban Airport.

Hilary Gereg held a similar position at Moraine Valley Community College (MVCC) for the last seven years but said that this position holds some new challenges that she looks forward to. "It's like managing a business," she said, "They're all the same in the basics but all extremely different."

The SBDC at GSU has programs that were not in place at MVCC, in particular the loan programs which have a significant impact on the scope of opportunities available to clients she said. "There are more opportunities to do more things for bigger groups of

clients," she added.

At the same time, she said, MVCC had programs which are not in place at GSU that can be replicated here. While Gereg brings ideas with her, she said "The ideas won't be all mine. We'll pull from everyone. It's a team."

Gereg received a bachelor of arts degree in marketing from Hallam University (formerly Sheffield) in England. "It's the home of the 'Full Monty,'" she said, for anyone who has seen the movie. She received a post-graduate diploma in adult and further education from the University of Kent at Canterbury and later earned a master's degree in management from National-Louis University in Lombard, Ill.

For information on the Small Business Development Center at GSU, contact Gereg at (708) 534-4929.



Green Presents at Two National Conferences

Dr. Paul Green, director of The Institute for Public Policy and Administration at GSU, recently was a featured speaker at two prestigious gatherings: the National Conference of State Legislatures which met in Las Vegas, Nevada and the Urban History Conference held on the campus of the University of New Mexico in Santa Fe.

GSU/Alumni News

Alumna Appointed to South Suburban College Faculty

GSU alumna Kim Kronvall-Jordan (B.A.-1992, M.A.-1993/CAS) has been appointed to a faculty position at South Suburban College in South Holland, Ill.

Kronvall-Jordan has worked as an adjunct at South Suburban for the past five years, beginning in that position just two weeks after completing her M.A. In her new appointment Kronvall-Jordan will serve as a full-time instructor of speech and journalism, as well as acting as the faculty advisor to the student newspaper, *The Courier*.

Ali Promoted to Assistant Provost at U of C

Aneesah Ali, a former student at Governors State University, was recently promoted to assistant provost and affirmative action officer at the University of Chicago (U of C).

Ali attributes her success at U of C, getting promoted every year since 1993, to her time spent going to school at GSU, where she is only a thesis away from completing a master's degree in psychology.

Ali received an undergraduate degree in African-American Studies from Brown University in Providence, R.I., in 1973.

continued on next page

Daryl Jones, Gusta Allen, Karen Sinwelski Summer Employees of the Month

Daryl Jones, a graduation counselor in the Registrar's Office, was June's Employee of the Month. Jones credited the team-oriented environment for his nomination. "I haven't achieved this by myself," he said. "It was part of a team effort."

In nominating Jones, co-worker Alice Gardner commented, "Daryl brings many talents to the Registrar's Office and has made my job easier. He has only been an employee for about a year but fits right in."

In addition to working at GSU full-time, Jones is working on his B.A. in Business Administration, which he plans to complete in the fall of 1999. He is a resident of Richton Park and has an eight-year-old son.

July's Employee of the Month was Gusta Allen of the Registrar's Office. In addition to her duties as administrative assistant to the Registrar, Allen's responsibilities include assigning rooms for all classes and coordinating details -- from programs, tickets and attire to transcripts -- for graduating students. She received five nominations for the award, three of which were from students.

Mary Brown, a co-worker in the Registrar's Office, nominated Allen "because of her hard work, dedication to the students and continued perseverance in the face of obstacles."



*Daryl Jones
June Employee of the Month*



*Gusta Allen
July Employee of the Month*



*Karen Sinwelski
August Employee of the Month*

She continued, "Mrs. Allen performs beyond her written roles and responsibilities, making the needs of the students her first priority."

Allen said she was surprised and honored to be selected. "It is very nice that students and the people I work with thought enough of me to nominate me."

Allen lives in Glenwood with her husband, Norman. They have two grown children.

Karen Sinwelski earned Employee of the Month honors for August. Sinwelski, chief clerk for Physical Plan Operations, was nominated by College of Education staff secretary Shirley Grant, who characterized Sinwelski as extremely helpful, courteous and a great asset to the university.

"I kept looking behind me to see if there was another Karen," Sinwelski said of her surprise at winning the award. "It warmed my heart to be recognized for doing my job," she said, "(and added to) the feeling of appreciation I have already within the department."

Sinwelski lives in East Hazel Crest with her two children, Ryan, 15, and, Kalla, 11.

Employee of the Month Award winners receive a certificate of appreciation, a \$150 check and tickets to a show at The Center for Performing Arts.

The Center for Performing Arts Set to Start Exciting New Season

The fourth season of The Center for Performing Arts at Governors State University promises to be the biggest and busiest yet. After a record-setting third season in which more than 30,000 tickets were sold for performances at the 1,200 seat state-of-the-art theater facility, the 1998-99 season of shows looks to be another record setter. In fact, one Center record has already been broken, even before the first performer has taken The Center stage; the 32 scheduled shows are the most booked for one season at The Center.

However, it is not the quantity of shows, but rather the quality and variety, that is the most impressive part of the 1998-99 Center for Performing Arts Season. Programming over the next nine months will range from the dance stylings of River North Dance Company, to the music of Glen Campbell and Ladysmith Black Mambazo, to international attractions like the Vienna Choir Boys and the Peking Acrobats, to the traveling tour of the Broadway spectacular, *The King and I*.

The 1998 portion of the schedule is full of excitement, with music legends taking the stage during the first two weekends of The Center's season. Opening night, Saturday September 12, features jazz greats Ramsey Lewis and Billy Taylor, face-to-face on two Steinways. Their tribute to Duke Ellington and George Gershwin will be part of an opening night gala that includes a champagne supper and reception after the concert. Tickets to the show only are also available.

The following weekend, on Saturday September 19, four-time Grammy winner and blues legend Buddy Guy will take Center stage to play classic hits and music from his new, critically acclaimed CD *Heavy Love*.

The month of September

ends with a Sunday, September 27 matinee performance of Chicago's Lira Ensemble, the nation's only professional performing arts company specializing in Polish music, song and dance.

A full month of October gets started on Saturday, October 3 with *Idols of the King*, a musical comedy featuring the music of Elvis Presley. A meet-the-cast reception will be held an hour



Ramsey Lewis & Billy Taylor

before the show in Engbretson Hall, just across from The Center box office. Admission is free, but reservations are required.

The weekend of Friday, October 9 and Saturday, October 10 brings major dance excitement to The Center, with performances by the Mexican Folkloric Dance Company of Chicago and perennial Center favorite River North Dance Company respectively. Mexican Folkloric features all the pageantry, traditional costumes and energy of Mexican dance while River North is the internationally acclaimed "something for everyone" troupe which has thrilled audiences two of the first three seasons at The Center with their programs that range from smooth and sensual to comedic dances.

The full weekend ends with a matinee performance of the Philadelphia Brass Ensemble,

the first in The Center's chamber music series for the season. A free meet-the-performers reception will be held in Engbretson Hall before the performance.

October ends with two "Especially for Kids" performances. On Saturday October 17, Theatreworks USA presents a unique adaptation of *The Jungle Book*, and Dave Rudolph's Halloween Spooktacular luncheon and show will present a delightful, frightful bite-full on Saturday, October 31. Lunch is limited to the first 200 reservations, but show-only tickets are also available for the Halloween show.

November features two exciting international acts. The Ondekoza Demon Drummers of Japan will bring their exciting rhythms and entrancing music to The Center for a Sunday, November 1 matinee performance, and the internationally renowned Vienna Choir Boys will visit The Center on their tour celebrating their 500th year of performing.

December will feature three holiday treats. Grammy winning country music star Glen Campbell will bring a special Country Christmas show to the Center for two performances on Saturday, December 5. The following weekend, on Saturday, December 12, Salt Creek Ballet will present two performances of the family favorite *The Nutcracker*. Finally, the national tour of the stage adaptation of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* returns to The Center's stage for a special holiday matinee treat on Sunday, December 20 to close the 1998 portion of what promises to be a great season.

For more information on the entire season, including show times, ticket prices, or how to reserve seats, contact The Center box office at (708) 235-2222.

GSU/Alumni News

continued from previous page

Alumna Earns Ph.D. - Accepts Teaching Positions

Gaile Hausaman Nellett (B.S. 1993/CHP), recently awarded a Ph.D. in nursing from Loyola University in Chicago, has accepted an assistant professorship at the University of St. Francis in Joliet and will be teaching in the St. Joseph College of Nursing, which is part of the University of St. Francis.

After earning the bachelor's degree at GSU, Dr. Nellett was awarded a master's of science in nursing from Loyola University.

In her new position, Nellett will be teaching mental health and nursing research. She has taught classes at sites which include GSU, Edward Hines, Jr. V.A. Hospital, Ravenswood Hospital School of Nursing, Lewis University, Loyola University, and the College of St. Francis/St. Joseph College of Nursing.

Parmenter and McCarthy Granted Tenure

GSU Professors David Parmenter and Kelly McCarthy were recently granted tenure at Governors State University after the Board of Trustees approved their respective recommendations of tenure.

McCarthy works in the Student Development office while Parmenter teaches in the College of Business and Public Administration.

New Public Service Scholarship Program Launched



Many older, working, part-time college students in Illinois are not eligible for the same financial aid as other students. A new pilot program is designed to gather information to change that. It will provide financial assistance for part-time adult undergraduates in service-oriented fields of study.

The scholarship program serves low and moderate income students attending college less than half-time (five credits or less). Most scholarship, grant and loan programs require students to attend at least half-time. Data will be collected to determine if students receiving the scholarship will be able to attend school without stopping out for financial reasons and will be more likely to complete their degrees.

The data will be collected through GSU's Financial Aid Office, which will provide financial counseling for participating students. The information will be used to try to change public policy to enable students who are attending school less than half-time to be eligible for state and federal financial aid, said Ginger Ostro, GSU's director of budget planning.

The funds will be available for the fall 1998 trimester and applications are currently being accepted. For information on applying for the public service scholarships, contact Bonnie Jepson in the GSU Financial Aid Office at (708) 534-4480.

Meet... Kathy Orr

"I'm not a visionary; I'm a pragmatist," said Kathy Orr of her vision for GSU. "An incredible opportunity exists to introduce GSU to community residents, to make it

the prime institution serving local residents," she said. Orr is a member of Governors State's Foundation Board and serves on the board of The Center for Performing Arts. A liaison between the two boards, Orr sees them as interrelated - both are looking to the community to support their projects. By sharing information, contacts and resources, both boards reach the maximum potential donors.

"The scholarships made possible by the Foundation are the only way that some incredibly talented people can continue their educations," said Orr, whose interest in the Foundation Board stems from her own financial struggle to stay in college. "My father died when I started school. I had to work my way through and be self-supporting at 19. I went to school during the day and worked nights at a grocery store." While many of her male classmates had jobs as laborers and dock workers earning \$6 or \$7 per hour, allowing them to work part-time to pay their way through school, Orr made only \$3.25 an hour as a cashier and had to work full time. Doing so enabled Orr to complete her B.A. in history at the University of Illinois at Chicago and a Law degree from DePaul University College of Law.



Orr also serves on the Foundation Board of Prairie State College and is on the board of directors for the Abby Foundation and the Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce, is active in the Chicago Board Association and is director of the board of the Tallgrass Art Center in Park Forest.

An attorney with the law firm Scariano, Kula, Ellch and Himes, which has offices in downtown Chicago and Chicago Heights, Orr's practice focuses in the areas of municipal law and municipal finance. She has worked extensively in economic development, dealing with innovative financial incentive programs pertaining to residential, commercial, recreational and industrial development. Orr serves as special counsel to the cities of Berwyn, Calumet City, Chicago Heights and Harvey and as village attorney for Park Forest and attorney for the Park Forest Library.

A resident of the south suburbs for more than 20 years, Orr resides in Flossmoor with her husband, Bryan, and children, Liz, 19, who attends DePauw University in Indiana, and James, 16, a student at Homewood-Flossmoor High School. "Our children are the 7th generation to be raised in the area," she said.

Clearly committed to the south region and to promoting GSU, Orr praised the university as "one of the absolute high points of the region."



**Governors
State
University**

University Park, IL
60466-0975

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID

Park Forest, IL 60466
Permit No. 178